

Mile High Wildlife Photography Club

December 2006 Volume 30, Issue 12

An End to a Dynamic Year

by Frank Weston

This is our last meeting for 2006. This past year has proven to be a year transition for Mile High Wildlife Photography Club. Under the leadership of Ron Eberhart, the club has gone through quite a growth process, but not without its share of growing pains. Throughout the year, the club has experienced highs and lows.

Change of Focus

Early in the year, NANPA's Twelfth Annual Nature Photography Summit was held here in Denver. Ron Eberhart had two of his photos displayed at the conference.

Shortly thereafter, the club began a major change in the club's focus. The club members voted to begin accepting digital images for the monthly competitions. Not all members supported the change and the club struggled for several months with this potentially divisive subject, but at the end of the year, digital images had been accepted and now make up the more than half of the competition entries.

An offshoot of accepting digital images was the revision of the competition rules. In keeping with the club's venture into digital competitions, the rules were modified to allow certain amounts of digital manipulation. The rules were also simplified, reducing the number of categories to four.

Highs

Long-time club member, Cathy Illg, was one of an elite group of world-reknoned nature photographers selected to compete in the ICF Pro-Tour of Nature Photography. Cathy finished third in this extraordinary competition.

The Wildlife Experience once again invited MHWPC to exhibit its finest images in the Community Gallery.

Twenty-two of the club's best photographs were and still are on display.

One of Russ Burden's individual shots received top honors in the Backyard Habitat Category of Nature's Best annual competition.



Russ Burden

The club is also in the process of getting a new webpage. Instead of the Yahoo group webpage that we've had for many years, the club is designing its own webpage.

Lows

The club entry into Nature Best annual competition once again failed to make the top the three. As usual, we just missed placing in this competition.

Personnel Changes

A few key personnel have changed during the course of the year. Kathy Nolasco stepped down as the club Treasurer, to be replaced by Patrick Devereaux.

Kathy and Len Lingo have stepped down as club librarians. Betsy Lamb has taken over this responsibility.

And of course, the monthly competitions have shown the depth of talent in this club. I do not envy the judges who have to decide which photo is the best. Interspersed throughout this month's newsletter are the editor's favorites and do not reflect how they finished in any competition. They are presented simply for your enjoyment.



Steve Goodman

At The Last Meeting...

Gordon and Cathy Illg gave us a sometimes humorous, sometimes discouraging, but definitely insightful look into the life of a professional photographer during their ICF competition last spring. Although professional photography may be fun, there are probably more times when it's boring, miserable, hard work—just like any other job.

December Potluck

December is our annual holiday potluck. **The meeting will start at 6:30 pm** instead of our usual 7:00 pm. The potluck will be held in the Community Gallery, where our exhibit is still on display. Everyone is asked to bring a dish to share. The club will provide meat, plates, napkins, utensils, and drinks. **TWE requests that all food and drink be closed and covered** on your way up to the Gallery.

Kudos

The majority of the work in keeping the club functional is handled by a small number of people. It's not because running the club only takes a small number of people, it's because these volunteers do an inordinate amount of work. This places a very large burden on a few that could be much more easily borne by many. Take a moment to recognize these dedicated people who make time in their busy schedules to keep MHW a great club.

Ron Eberhart
Chris Loffredo
Patrick Devereau
Kathy Nolasco
Chuck Winter
David Terbush
Roger Kinney
Buzz Soard

Tom Lentz
Wayne Smith
Rita Summers
Rick Harner
Russ Burden
Charlie Summers
Matt Schaefer
Fred Stearns
Kathy & Leonard Lingo

If I've missed anyone, please accept my sincerest apology and my heartfelt gratitude. I also extend a warm thank-you to all the hospitality volunteers throughout the year and to those who covered when there weren't any volunteers.

Braggin' Rights

Fi Rust doesn't like to brag, but there are several of us who insist on braggin' for her. Fi has two photos published in *Smithsonian*.

Russ and Nick Burden will have a small blurb in the Winter issue of *Nature's Best* magazine highlighting an up coming article due in the Spring issue. The Winter issue will feature one of **Nick's** shots from Arches National Park.

Frank Weston has an article on shooting in stormy weather along with several photos published in this month's *Outdoor Photographer*.



James Hager

MHWPC Webpage

The beginnings of a new club webpage are taking shape. This isn't simply a chat group, but a real, bona fide web site. You can see the beginnings of our webpage at www.MHWPC.org. What you see so far is due

to the efforts of members **James Hager** and **Anne Hughes** who volunteered their services when Ron suggested we create our own website. Take moment to check it out. If you have any suggestions for the webpage (layout, content, colors scheme, etc.) please forward them to Ron Eberhart. And don't forget to thank James and Anne for efforts on the club's behalf.

Upcoming Programs

December— Potluck

Our December 13 Holiday Potluck

will be held in the Community Gallery, with our exhibit still on display!

January—TBA

We are looking for a program for January. If you would like to do a presentation of know someone who would, please contact Chuck Winter, 303-972-2538.

February—TBA

March— Wild Horses

Charlie Summers will share his passion for wild horses and some images from his recently published book, *All the Wild Horses*.

For photo contest details, requirements, and procedures, visit <http://www.refugenet.org>, and click on “2007 Refuge Photo Contest.”



Fi Rust

Of Interest

If you ever get locked out of the building during one of our meetings, go to the security office on the west side of the building at the loading dock.

The winners of the club's TWE competition will be available for viewing at in the Community Gallery, October 7, 2006 – January 28, 2007.

Refuge Association Launches 2nd Annual Refuge Photo Contest

The National Wildlife Refuge Association (NWRA) announces its 2nd annual digital photo contest showcasing America's national wildlife refuges. Entry deadline is January 31, 2007 with results to be announced March 14, 2007 at the 104th anniversary of the establishment of the first National Wildlife Refuge.

Club Librarian

Betsy Lamb has stepped forward to take over the club library in 2007. Thank you, Betsy.

Call for Papers

by **Matt Schaefer**

And Another One of My Favorite Places is...

For many of us, we each have favorite places which we have found to be full of rich photographic treasures. Most of us are also always looking for more such places to practice our vocation or avocation. This is a call for club members to share some information on your favorite places so that all of us can enjoy them, as well. This would become a regular column in the newsletter and would include location, special considerations, type of photographs available (flowers, landscapes, wildlife, etc.), and directions.

Since the purpose is report on places available for everyone, let's try to limit them to the continental U.S. for now. Maybe later, we can expand to "my favorite international places". Also, let's see if we can report on the out-of-the-way places not reported in every tourist and photo guide to the country. It doesn't have to be expensive or famous to a favorite place.

Some ideas to include in a report would be:

- why it is special
- state and county names, as well as other commonly used names for the area (i.e.,: Blanco Basin, Archuleta County, Colorado)
- a couple of sample photos (these don't have to be competition quality, but should show some examples of what a person could expect to see there)
- a simple map, or links to Google Maps or Mapquest
- directions and distances to nearby towns including highway numbers and key turnoffs
- distance and time from Denver
- special considerations such as weather, road conditions, traffic, crowd reports, best time of day/year, special equipment to bring, fees, and what not to miss
- your name and POC information in case someone has additional questions

Please submit them to [Frank Weston](#) in the normal manner for inclusion in the newsletter. Hopefully, we'll have enough submissions to run one each month.

November Competition Results

Judge:

Category: Digital

Wildlife - 12 entries



1st Place

Inquisitive Baboon Youngsters

Charlie Summers

2nd	Frost-encrusted Buffalo	Rita Summers
3rd	Hey Those Teeth Are Sharp	Jan France
HM	Burrowing Owl Chick	Fi rust

Scenic - 10 entries



1st Place

White Sands National Monument

Fi Rust

2nd	Fall on the River	Roger Kinney
3rd	Fog Shrouded Yellowstone	Rita Summers

Open – 4 entries



1st Place
Bull Elk on Ridge in Foggy Yellowstone
Charlie Summers

Wildlife HoM – 2 entries



1st Place
Resting White Goose
Tom Lentz

Club Field Trips

Listed below are tentative dates for club field trips.

- Ptarmigan, Guanella Pass—tentatively scheduled for late January or February (January 20th or February 17th or March 3rd). Contact [Chuck Winter](#), 303-972-2538 for details.
- Wild Horse Foals, Black Hills—May 5, 2007. The trip will be at the Wild Horse Sanctuary, Hot Springs, SD. The cost will be \$26/session, with two 3-hour sessions, one at sunrise and one at sunset. Contact [Charlie Summers](#), 303-840-3355 for more information.

Hospitality

Greeter(s):

Snacks:

Drinks/Ice:

Club Library

The club library contains books, videos, magazines and CDs about nature photography. Club members may check out one item for one month. Overdue fines of \$1.00 per month will be due on any item not returned the next month. Please be considerate of others who want to use the library resources! Do not check out an item unless you will return it at the next month's meeting. If you miss the next meeting, please contact **Kathy Lingo** to make arrangements to return the item to her. kathy@arch2000.net or (303) 733- 9844

Workshops and Seminars

Cathy & Gordon Illg – Workshops:
Adventure Photography 303 237-7086
gordon@advenphoto.com
www.advenphoto.com

- Bosque del Apache (Full Moon), December 3-8

- Death Valley/Alabama Hills, December 31 – January 6
- Beauty & the Beasts (Monarchs & Elephant Seals), January 8-13
- Winter Wildlife, February 6-9
- Southern Arizona, April 22–27
- Texas Birds, April 30 – May 5
- Louisiana/Texas Birds & Bayous, May 7–12
- Wild Horses, May 29 – June 2
- Mt. Evans/Alpine Adventure, June 12 –15
- Wildlife Babies, June 19 –22
- Glacier National Park, July 8 – 13

Russ Burden's Photography Tours
 Visit russburdenphotography.com. Contact
 Russ at 303 791-9997 or
rburden@ecentral.com

Destinations include:

- Apr 21 - 27, 2007 - Monument Valley / Slot Canyons
- May 12 - 18, 2007 - Arches + Canyonlands National Park – includes 5 days of Photoshop instruction with a certified Photoshop Instructor.
- May 26 - June 4, 2007 - Oregon Coast and Northern California - 10 day trip
- June 16 - 22, 2007 - Tetons and Yellowstone Natl. Park in Spring
- Sept. 22-Oct. 1, 2007 - Tetons and Yellowstone Natl. Park in Fall -10 day trip
- Oct. 6 - 12, 2007 - Vermont in Autumn
- Oct. 20 - 25, 2007 - Hunts Mesa in Monument Valley and Capital Reef NP.
- Nov. 3 - 9, 2007 - Bryce Canyon and Zion National Park
- Dec. 1 - 7, 2007 - Bosque Del Apache and White Sands Natl. Mon.

James Hager Photography - Small Group Photo Safaris, www.JamesHagerPhoto.com
James@JamesHagerPhoto.com

- Tanzania in Feb 2007: Wildebeest birthing season in Ngorongoro Crater and Serengeti NP- 15 days, Feb 3-17
- Primates in Feb 2007: Chimpanzees and gorillas in Tanzania and Rwanda - 11 days, Feb 17-27

Mile High Wildlife Photography Club

President: [Ron Eberhart](#)
 720-635-6337

Vice-President: [Chris Loffredo](#)
 720-200-0792

Secretary/Treasurer: [Patrick Devereaux](#)
 303-683-7011

TEAM LEADERS

Monthly Programs: [Chuck Winter](#) 303-972-2538

Membership: vacant

Special Programs/Field Trips:

[Chuck Winter](#) 303-972-2538

Competition: [Russ Burden](#)

Competition Scoring: [Chris Loffredo](#)

Competition Entrees: [Matt Schaeffer](#)/[Fred Stearns](#)
Judging Coordinator: [David Terbush](#) 303-814-6969

Snacks/Greeters: [Roger Kinney](#) 303-369-6120

Publicity: [Buzz Soard](#) 303-779-9933

Library: [Lingo Family](#) 303-733-9844

Newsletter: [Frank Weston](#) 720-981-8087

Club Website: [James Hager](#)

<http://www.mhwpc.org>

BOARD of DIRECTORS

Russ Burden * Tom Lentz *

Wayne Smith * Rita Summers * Rick Harner

December Meeting

Wednesday December 13

6:30 pm – 10:00 pm

at

THE WILDLIFE EXPERIENCE

10035 South Peoria

Competition: No competition

Submittal Deadline:

November Attendance: 42
